Bundy Jailed For Contempt; Trial Friday

S-1 3/15/69

Municipal Judge Andrew G. Bucaro put Vernon William Bundy Jr., 31, into jail for contempt of court today because he failed to appear for trial on theft charges yesterday.

Bundy, who was a key prosecution witness in the recent trial of Clay L. Shaw for conspiracy in the John F. Kennedy assassination, is charged with theft and possession Saturday of two pair of men's trousers valued at $18.50 taken from a Canal st. store.

Judge Bucaro set bond at $1,000, and scheduled trial on the two charges on Friday.

Bundy, of 4039 Athis Court, testified at the Shaw trial that he saw Shaw pass a roll of bills to Lee Harvey Oswald on the Lake Pontchartrain seawall during the summer of 1963.

Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin who killed President Kennedy.

Bundy, who has served time on narcotics charges in the past, was represented by attorney Rudolph F. Becker III, who alleged that Bundy was improperly served notice of his trial date.

Ernest Hessler Sr., register of conveyances for Orleans Parish, signed the parole order for Bundy's release on the charges Saturday.